IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Bergeron et al.

Appl. No. To Be Assigned

(U.S. National Phase of PCT/CA00/01150)

§ 371 Date: *To Be Determined* (Int'l Filing Date: September 28, 2000)

For: Highly Conserved Genes and Their Use to Generate Species-Specific, Genus-Specific, Family-Specific, Group-Specific and Universal Nucleic Acid Probes and Amplification Primers to Rapidly Detect and Identify Algal, Archaeal, Bacterial, Fungal and Parasitical Microorganisms from Clinical

Specimens for Diagnosis

Confirmation No.: To Be Assigned

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 1619.0090000/SRL/PAJ

Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In advance of prosecution of the above-captioned application, please amend the application as provided herein. This Preliminary Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;
- (B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks. 37 C.F.R. § 1.115 and M.P.E.P. § 714; and
- (C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."